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Quenching of Emission and of Photochemistry of Pentacarbonyl-4-cyanopyridinotungsten(0)

by

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Quenching of Emission and of Photochemistry of Pentacarbonyl-4-cyanopyridinotungsten(0)

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Abstract

The complex W(CO)₅L, L = 4 cyanopyridine, is found to emit in room temperature methylcyclohexane solution. The emission is centered around 630 nm and is 105 ± 10 nsec in lifetime, τ , at 25 °C. Added 0.1 M ethanol does not change the characteristics, and in this medium $1/\tau = 2.61 \times 10^8 \exp(-1960/RT)$. The emission is quenched by anthracene, as is also the photosubstitution reaction whereby L is replaced by ethanol ($\phi = 0.028 \pm 10\%$ at room temperature), Stern-Volmer plots of (τ°/τ) and of (ϕ°/ϕ) vs. quencher concentration are linear, the common slope giving a bimolecular quenching rate constant of (τ°/τ) and of (τ°/τ) emitting state is clearly implicated in the photochemistry; between the emission spectrum and the anthracene triplet state energy, the energy of the CT state is bracketed as between 14.7 and 20 kK.

Quenching of Emission and of Photochemistry of Pentacarbonyl-4-cyanopyridinotungsten(0).

Sir:

Several complexes of the general formula $W(CO)_5L$, where L is a n-donor, have been found to luminesce at 77K either as the pure solid or in rigid glasses. 1,2 The emission has been assigned to either a $^3E^{-1}A_1$ ligand field (LF) transition or a W+L charge transfer (CT) transition, depending on the nature of L. As L becomes more electron-withdrawing, the CT state lowers in energy, and for various 4-substituted pyridines as L, has been inferred to be the lowest lying state. 3 $W(CO)_5L$ complexes have not been thought to luminesce in room temperature solution, presumably because of rapid ligand dissociation and non-radiative relaxation to ground state. 2 , 4 We report here what appears to be the first observation of emission from a $W(CO)_5L$ complex in room temperature solution. The finding makes possible quenching studies, and results are reported for anthracene as quencher.

 $W(CO)_5(4-{\rm cyanopyridine})$ was prepared via the tetrahydrofuran complex, $W(CO)_5(THF)$, according to a literature procedure. ^{3,5} Purification was achieved by chromatography on alumina, followed by recrystallization from toluene/iso-octane solution. Anthracene was recrystallized from benzene prior to use. The solvent methylcyclohexane was purified by distillation, to remove trace emitting impurities. Laser pulse excitation was at 353 nm or 530 nm, using a 20 nsec pulse from a Nd glass laser. ⁶ Conventional photolyses were carried out with light from an interference filtered Hg lamp, and quantum yields were determined by means of Reineckate actinometry. ⁷

Either 353 nm or 530 nm excitation of $W(CO)_5(4\text{-cyanopyridine})$ (5×10^{-5} to 1×10^{-4} M) in argon-flushed methylcyclohexane produced a relatively weak emission (comparable in intensity to that found for various Cr(III) ammines in room temperature solution). The decay time, τ , is 105 ± 10 nsec at 25 °C, and the emission is in the 600-700 nm region with an uncorrected peak intensity at about 630 nm (reported values in EPA at 77 K are 33 µsec and 602 nm). The emission temperature dependence was determined both in the above solvent and with added 0.1 M ethanol (which had no detectable effect). The data are shown in Figure 1, the least squares line giving $1/\tau = 2.61 \times 10^8$ exp(-1960/RT); the apparent activation energy is thus small, and may relate to that of solvent viscosity. It might be noted that we see weak emission from such complexes as $W(CO)_6$ and $W(CO)_5(C_2H_5OH)$, but of lifetime less than 20 nsec, so that quenching studies were not attempted.

In the absence of some entering ligand, the photochemistry is complex. Photodissociation of the 4-cyanopyridine or similar ligands has been found to be the most efficient process for our excitation wavelength region, 3 , 10 and binuclear species such as $W_2(CO)_{11}$ or $W_2(CO)_{10}L$ may be formed. 11 Also, for example, evidence has recently been reported for the appearance of $Cr_2(CO)_{11}$ on flash photolysis of $Cr(CO)_6$ in perfluorocarbon solvents. 12 We observed an early loss of isobestic points on photolysis of $W(CO)_5(4-cyanopyridine)$ in methylcyclohexane, evidently due to secondary reactions to form such binuclear products. However, in the presence of excess entering ligand, in this case 0.1 M ethanol, the photosubstitution reaction to form $W(CO)_5(C_2H_5OH)$ appears to be uncomplicated by side or subsequent reactions. The spectral sequence on 520 nm irradiation is shown in Figure 2; there is a clean progression to near zero terminal absorbance in the 450 nm to 500 nm region. The quantum yield, ϕ , is 0.028 \pm 10%; such a low value is

consistent with results reported for substituted pyridine ligands of this type, and is apparently characteristic when the CT state lies below the LF state.

Quenching both of the photochemistry and of the luminescence is observed using anthracene. A Stern-Volmer type plot of ϕ°/ϕ and τ°/τ , where superscript zero denotes absence of quencher, is linear against anthracene concentration, as shown in Figure 3. The slope yields a common bimolecular quenching rate constant of $3.7 \times 10^9 \, \text{M}^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}$. This value is at about the diffusion limit.

Our results strongly indicate that the emitting state of $W(CO)_5(4-cyanopyridine)$ is directly implicated in the photochemistry. Presumably, reaction occurs from this state, although back intersystem crossing to a reactive LF state is an alternative possibility, especially if ϕ turns out to be strongly temperature dependent. We can put limits on the energy of the emitting state. From the emission spectrum, it appears to be not more than 20 kK, and, assuming that quenching is by energy transfer, the lower limit is that of triplet state anthracene, or 14.7 kK. Investigations are in progress to locate this energy more precisely and also to verify that energy transfer is indeed the quenching mechanism.

Quenching of emission and of photochemistry has been observed for Various Cr(III) ammines, 14 and, recently for $Rh(NH_3)_5Cl^{15}$ and $Rh(NH_3)_5Br.^{16}$ Emission and emission quenching has been reported for Rhenium tricarbonyl complexes. 17 The present case appears to be the first one involving a Group VI carbonyl complex.

Acknowledgement

This investigation was supported in part by a grant from the U.S. Office of Naval Research.

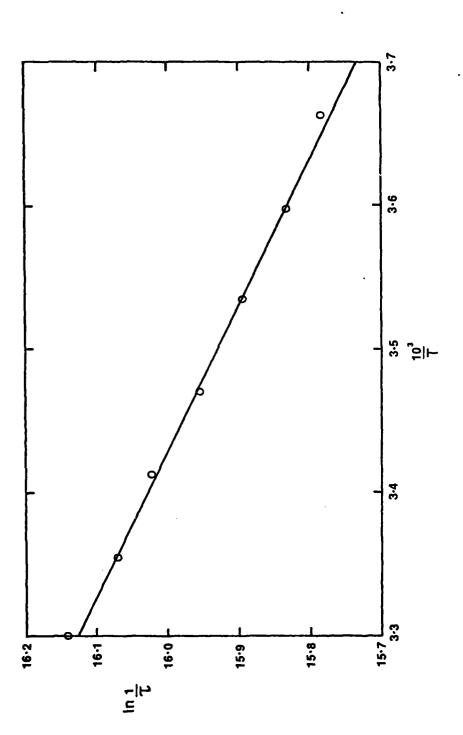
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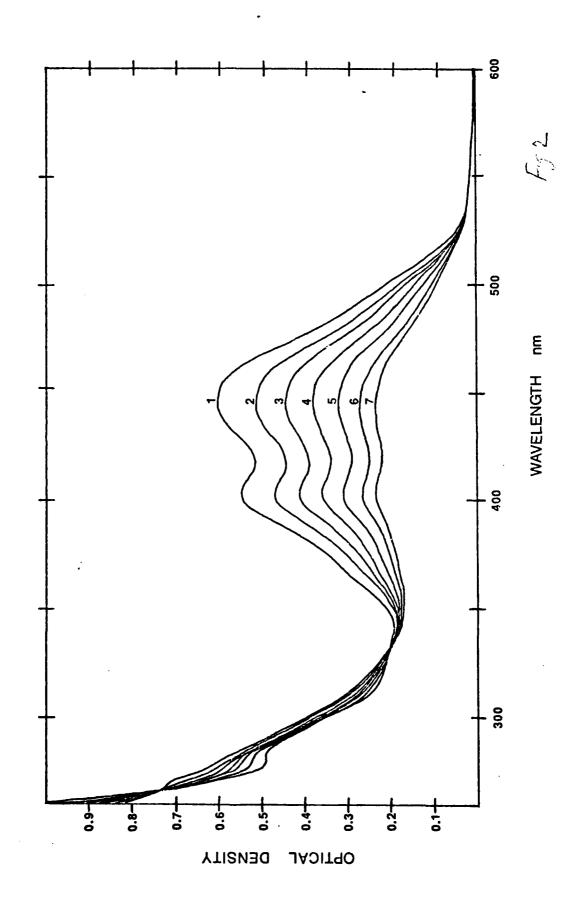
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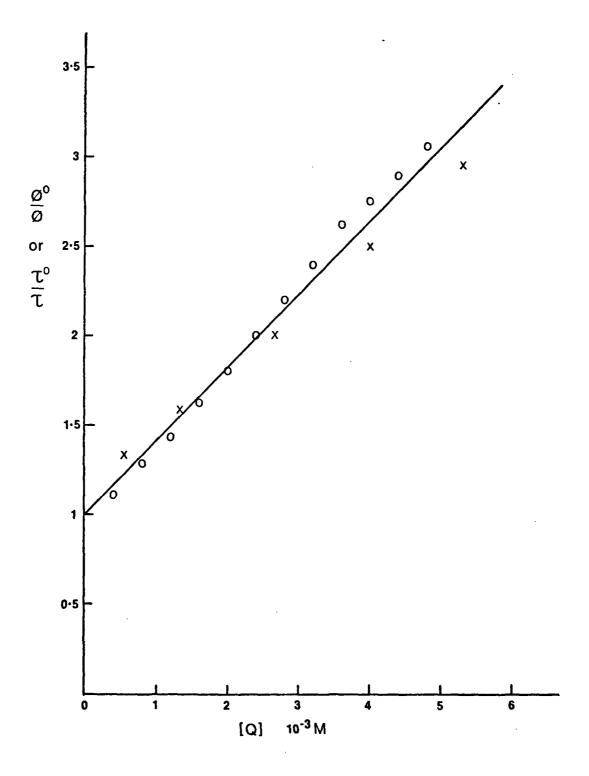
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Legends for the Figures

- Figure 1. Temperature dependence of emission from $W(CO)_5(4-cyanopyridine)$ in argon purged methylcyclohexane containing 0.1 M ethanol. Excitation at 530 nm detection at 650 nm.
- Figure 2. Photolysis of $W(CO)_5(4$ -cyanopyridine) at room temperature in methylcyclohexane containing 0.1 M ethanol. Curve 1, initial spectrum. Curves 2-7, irradiation at 520 nm for equal time intervals.
- Figure 3. Quenching of W(CO) $_5$ (4-cyanopyridine) processes at room temperature by anthracene in methylcyclohexane containing 0.1 M ethanol. 0, $\tau^{\circ}/\tau^{\circ}$, X, ϕ°/ϕ .







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